

PRESCOTT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Application Information



Dear Parents,

Prescott is a district and state-approved charter school that is identified as a school of choice for parents in the Dubuque Community School District. Enrollment in Prescott is optional for ALL students within the district, and it is not considered a neighborhood school for any students. Because this is a school of choice, it is important that all parents understand how Prescott is different than the other elementary schools and also commit to involvement in the charter school. The attached contract will outline the expectations of the type of commitment you will be making when enrolling at Prescott.

Each class at Prescott has a class-size limit if there are openings at any grade level, there is an enrollment period each spring. If more students apply than openings, there is a lottery for the openings. Following this enrollment period, any remaining openings are on a first-come basis. Once enrolled at Prescott, the child may remain at Prescott throughout their elementary years. Siblings to students who already attend Prescott and are incoming kindergarteners, can move to the top of the list for enrollment if registered during the enrollment period. This guarantee is made ONLY if parents complete enrollment papers by the identified spring due date. If the paper work is not completed on time, the kindergarten placement is not guaranteed. Once classes are filled, other students wanting to attend Prescott are placed on a waiting list. As children leave, those on the waiting list are invited to attend.

Prescott Elementary Charter School offers your child a unique educational experience. We are an Expeditionary Learning School, and our curriculum is delivered through learning expeditions. In these expeditions, all of the school subjects are integrated through and in-depth study on the topic. We provide the students more opportunities to learn in the community as well as bringing experts into the classroom. We also have a strong focus on the arts, imbedding instruction in the arts into the expeditions and offering courses outside the school day. Spotlighting character development and social skill instruction is a key element of our school culture and expeditions. During each expedition, parents, family and community members are encouraged to attend celebrations of learning where the children share learning in a variety of different ways with the outside community.

Choosing Prescott for your child's educational program indicates that you desire the program that our charter school offers for your child's education. Once you decide that you want Prescott to be your child's school, it is necessary that the school, families and students each understand and accept the role and responsibilities that are outlined in the Prescott Charter School Contract. Through this contract, we all understand the role that each must uphold to assure that the educational program that you have chosen for your child becomes a reality.

If you believe that Prescott might be a good fit for your child, the application is attached. This application clearly outlines the expectations for families who select Prescott as their child's educational home! We thank you for your interest in Prescott and commitment to providing a quality educational program for your child/children.

Chris McCarron
Principal

Application for Prescott Charter School



Parent Name _____

Child/Children's

Names and Grades:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

I understand the following statements:

- **Prescott is a charter school and no child is required to attend.**
 - *It is a parental choice.*
- **After initial enrollment, each spring I will confirm enrollment for the following year to assure ongoing enrollment at the school.**
 - *The confirmation allows for my child to continue at Prescott without needing to go through another application process.*
- **Siblings of current Prescott students entering into kindergarten will move to the top of the enrollment list IF the registration occurs during the enrollment period in the spring.**
 - *If a sibling enrolls after this period, openings will be filled on a first-come basis and could be placed on a waiting list if no space is available.*
- **Acceptance into Prescott's Charter School is dependent upon meeting the required commitments listed below. I understand that if those requirements are not met, my child's acceptance into the Charter could be revoked.**

Requirements for Acceptance:

- **I will have my child at school every day and on time.**
 - *Excessive absences keeps us from being able to offer a quality program to your child and limits the benefits of the program. There are often other students who were unable to get into Prescott and who are on a waiting list. Those on the waiting list would be offered your slot if you are unable to commitment to regular attendance.*
- **I will provide and keep current, all of my contact information.**
 - *It is necessary to keep contact information up to date in order to facilitate communication between home and school. This is also essential in case of an emergency. You can update this information from home through Power School.*
- **I will attend parent teacher conferences twice a year for my child.**
 - *This is a primary opportunity for collaboration with the school. Although you will receive a progress report, the conferences provides both you and*

the teacher with additional insights and the opportunity for discussion that only can occur in a face-to-face discussion.

- **Prescott has high expectations for academic performance and behavioral expectations. I will support the staff as they work with my child to meet those expectations.**
 - *Children who have parents who support and collaborate with the school have both a greater increase in their learning and demonstrate stronger social and behavioral skills.*
 - *When students demonstrate either learning challenges or challenges with behavior, parents will be contacted and will be asked to collaborate with the staff to support their child to meet expectations.*
 - *A nightly agenda is sent home listing home-work or upcoming special events. Parents need to read the agenda nightly to be aware of the school communications.*
- **I will communicate questions and concerns with my child's teacher as I have them.**
 - *The staff of Prescott wants both you and your child to have a positive experience with school. By contacting your child's teacher with questions or concerns right away, the school staff can often avoid confusions, or help to find a solution to your concern.*
- **I will celebrate my child's learning and social development.** *(We realize that parents are not always able to attend school events due to other commitments. Arranging for another guest or family member to attend with your child lets your child know how important it is to you. If you do not have anyone who can attend with your child, if you call school, a special staff member or volunteer will serve as a guest for your child.)*
 - *Parents are invited to come to three learning celebrations throughout the year. At these learning celebrations students share their work of the trimester with parents.*
 - *Many classes provide opportunities for parents to come to brown bag lunches with their child. At these lunches students get an opportunity to share a social time with their parents.*
 - *There are social events provided for children and families beyond the school hours. These events are fun family events that, by attending, also demonstrate your interest and involvement at school.*
 - *Celebrating and encouraging your child to invest in school is not dependent upon your attendance at school events. By talking in a supportive way about school and setting high expectations for your child's efforts and achievements, your child will grow and benefit from your involvement.*

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____